Viaje Al Oeste. Journey to the West. Die Reise nach Westen. Putování na západ. Le Voyage en Occident. Jornada ao oeste. Färden till Västern. 西遊記. Volume 2. Atticus Diablowsky.

Viaje Al Oeste Vol. II (Journey To The West Vol. II) by Atticus Diablowsky

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You are probably jealous right now, thinking about the little puppy in the Volume 1 and how he got a dedication page all for himself and you didn't. Well, the thing is that I was reserving a very special spot for you, I wanted you to have your dedication page in a book that was, somehow, particularly yours, but that book never came. So, till that special story appears in my untalented brain this little book is for you, Tula, my White Lady, my little dragon in an English Setter suit.

Probablemente ahora mismo estés celosa del pequeño cachorrito del volumen 1 y de cómo consiguió su dedicatoria y te preguntarás por qué demonios nunca te he dedicado nada a ti. La cuestión es que, lo creas o no, te estaba reservando para algo verdaderamente especial, una historia que fuera particularmente tuya, pero la historia no ha aparecido aún. Así que hasta que esa historia especial aparezca en esta cabeza de alcornoque que llevo sobre los hombros, este librito es para ti, Tula, mi Dama Blanca, mi dragoncito con aspecto de setter inglés.

The first time I traveled to China, once I got off the plane I was thrown into a van and we started traveling westbound non-stop. Almost everyday we made several hundreds of miles. With the camera in my hand just about all the time, I shoot more than 500 photos from the fast-moving van, from hotel rooms up in the air in the forty-something floor of a sky-scraper and from my hip, without stopping to take a second look, because someone was always in a hurry to get somewhere. When I was 12 years old, I started to pay daily visits to the Chinese Fiction section in the Central Library of the town where I lived by then. The book that caught my attention the most was titled Journey To The West. It was a classic sixteenth century text widely popular inside and outside of China. I had that book in my hands at least a hundred times but I never read it. Somehow, at that tender age, I was intimidated by books of that length (it was 2200 pages long). I've already said that the first time I went to China I was traveling westbound non stop. The country that I found, like many emerging countries, was traveling westbound too (If that turns out to be a good thing for Chinese people remains to be seen. There are still lots of suffering people in China and it's quite evident that the country needs serious changes but I'm not sure that *"going west"* is the answer. But then again, politicians rarely look after the people they are supposed to represent). Anyway, I decided to borrow the title of that book that many years before, I had in my hands without daring to read it. Now, you, my dear reader, have before your eyes the second volume of my Journey To The West, focused on urban China. I hope that you do dare to read it. It won't take you much effort. As it happens, it's only a bunch of photos.

La primera vez que viajé a China, nada más poner un pie en tierra, me subieron a una furgoneta y comenzamos a avanzar sin parar hacia el oeste. Casi todos los días, recorríamos varios centenares de kilómetros. Con la cámara en la mano prácticamente de continuo, disparé más de 500 fotos desde la furgoneta en movimiento, desde alguna habitación de hotel en la planta cuarenta y tantos de un rescacielos, y desde la cintura, casi sin mirar, porque siempre había alguien con prisa por llegar a algún sitio. Cuando tenía unos doce años empecé a visitar a diario la sección de Literatura China en la Biblioteca Central de la ciudad donde vivía por entonces. Uno de los libros que más me llamaba la atención se titulaba Viaje Al Oeste. Es un texto clásico del siglo XVI tremendamente popular dentro y fuera de China. Lo tuve en mis manos un centenar de veces, pero nunca lo llegué a leer porque a aquella tierna edad, el volumen del libro (unas 2200 páginas) me resultaba demasiado intimidante. Ya he dicho que cuando aterricé en China por primera vez estuve viajando hacia el Oeste desde que puse el primer pie en tierra. El país que me encontré, como tantos otros en su momento de emergencia, estaba viajando también hacia el Oeste Queda por ver si esto traerá a la larga algo positivo para el pueblo chino. A día de hoy, la miseria todavía campa a sus anchas por amplias zonas del país. Es evidente que China necesita serios cambios estructurales pero no estoy seguro de que *"viajar al oeste"* sea la respuesta. Claro que la clase política rara vez vela por los intereses del pueblo que supuestamente representa. De cualquier manera, decidí tomar prestado el título de aquel libro que tantos años atrás sostuve en mi manos sin atreverme a leerlo. Ahora tú, querido lector, tienes ante ti el segundo volumen de mi Viaje Al Oeste, dedicado a la China urbana. Espero que tú sí te atrevas a leerlo. No te costará demasiado esfuerzo. A fin de cuentas, no son más que unas cuantas fotos.

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I'm confused. He said, pointing to a Louis Vuitton Store as they strolled through Chengdu's downtown.

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And, how's that different from Europe or the USA?

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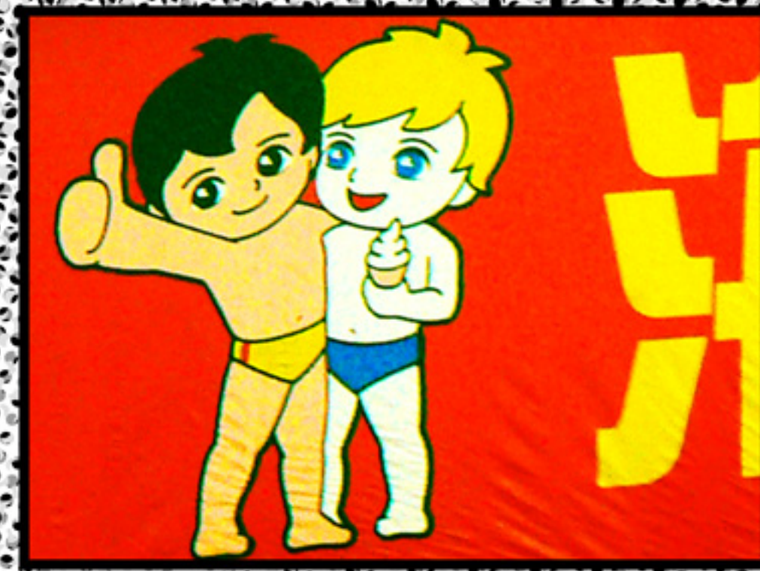

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为什么要使用安全套

我们了解到，在中国性病发病率逐年上升，其中AIDS(爱滋病)也逐渐流传开来。这些疾病的病毒存在于人体的血液、精子及阴道的分泌物中，可怕的是如果交叉感染，有些性病，如爱滋病目前国际上想治愈很难。同时因意外受孕而导致人流、坠胎对女性身心造成极大的伤害。如果快乐有这些后顾之忧，快乐就是表象的，这不是我们需要的快乐！其实只需要用一只倍力乐或其它优质的安全套而已，使用安全套，更是国际上公认的最佳防范爱滋病的办法。

You know, last night, at my hotel room, I couldn't help but notice a flyer lying on the bed table. Everything was in Chinese so I can't be sure but it looked like advertisement for a whorehouse or something like that.

Well, I didn't see the flyer but it probably was advertisement for a whorehouse after all.

Really?

Yeah, something like that. Did you notice that there was a massage house in the underground floor of the hotel?

I did.

Well, it was a perfectly normal massage house. You can go there and have a sauna or a foot massage. Even some women go there nowadays. But, if you want, you can get other services.

Interesting, what about porn?

What about it?

Well, last night I tried to google for some porn, just as an experiment you know.

Of course.

The thing is that google gave me the results as usual but clicking the links was no good. A message appear each and every time telling me the "page didn't exist." After that, I had to reboot the computer to get an internet connection again because my ip address was banned somehow.

Yeah, that happens.

So, I can have sex with a prostitute without leaving the hotel premises but I can't watch internet porn.

That's right.

Interesting country. Interesting country indeed.

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